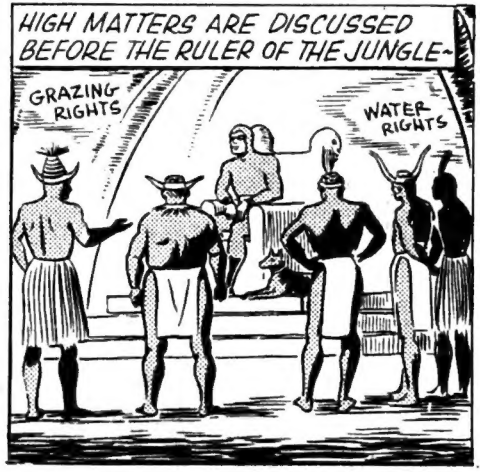
WILSON McCOY 9-3
AN IMPORTANT TIME IN THE JUNGLE~THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF CHIEFS~

~~IN THE DEEP WOODS BEFORE THE FABULOUS SKULL THRONE~~


HIGH MATTERS ARE DISCUSSED BEFORE THE RULER OF THE JUNGLE~
GRAZING RIGHTS
WATER RIGHTS

~WHOSE MIND WANDERS OCCASIONALLY FROM THE CONFERENCE!
DIANA ~ IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME~~

DIANA, HOW LONG SINCE YOU'VE SEEN THE PHANTOM?
AGES, UNCLE DAVE.
HUMPH. HE MUST BE MIGHTY FOND OF YOU!

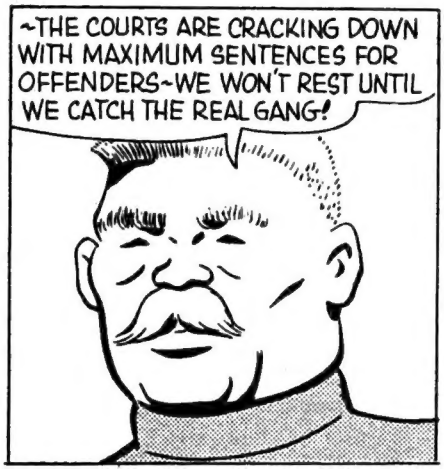
MAMA, YOU ONLY THINK OF HIM AS A MAN WITH A MASK. HE'S LIKE A RULER IN THE JUNGLE~ HE'S BUSY~~
WILSON McCOY 9-4

MAYBE I'LL VISIT HIM.
NO DAUGHTER OF MINE'LL GO CHASING AFTER A MAN. IF HE WANTS TO SEE YOU, LET HIM COME HERE!

I AGREE WITH THAT.
OH, SOMEHOW, SOME-WAY, HE'LL COME TO SEE ME SOON. I KNOW!

WILSON McCOY 9-5
Newspaper
SHOPLIFTING INCREASING IN LEAPS AND BOUNDS
POLICE CHIEF MEETS TODAY WITH MERCHANTS TO DISCUSS MENACE

YOUR LOSSES HAVE BECOME HIGH. WE BELIEVE A GANG IS OPERATING. WE'VE MADE A FEW PETTY ARRESTS~~


~THE COURTS ARE CRACKING DOWN WITH MAXIMUM SENTENCES FOR OFFENDERS~WE WON'T REST UNTIL WE CATCH THE REAL GANG!

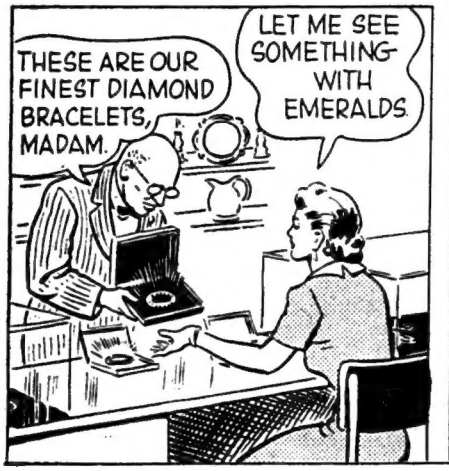
THE PAPERS ARE TALKING ABOUT YOU, "FINGERS". YOU'RE A MENACE!
LET 'EM TALK! GET READY FOR ANOTHER JOB, MARGOT.

I'LL USE A LARGE MUSTACHE TODAY. PUT ON YOUR BROWN WIG, MARGOT.
I LIKE THAT ONE, FINGERS.

I CAN DISGUISE EVERYTHING EXCEPT THESE LONG FINGERS OF MINE.
THEY'RE YOUR FORTUNE. DON'T COMPLAIN.

HERE'S THE PLACE FOR TODAY~
~WE HAVEN'T BEEN HERE IN MONTHS~
ewelry
WILSON McCOY 9-6

~AND THERE IS OUR STOOGE FOR TODAY. GET IT?
YES.
POOR WOMAN.


THESE ARE OUR FINEST DIAMOND BRACELETS, MADAM.
LET ME SEE SOMETHING WITH EMERALDS.

WILSON McCOY 9-7

MAY I SEE THAT-- OH~ I BEG YOUR PARDON.
NOT AT ALL~

WHAT'S HE UP TO?

WILSON McCOY 9-8
I'M SO SORRY I KNOCKED YOUR HANDBAG ON THE FLOOR.
IT'S QUITE ALL RIGHT.

HERE ARE SOME LOVELY BRACELETS ~WITH EMERALDS.
STUNNING.

I'M JUST LOOKING, TODAY. I'LL BE BACK ANOTHER DAY.
GLAD TO SERVE YOU ANY TIME.

IT'S NONE OF MY BUSINESS~BUT I SAW THAT STOUT LADY PUT A BRACELET IN HER HANDBAG
?

ARE YOU SURE?
YES~IT WAS WHILE YOU WERE AWAY FROM THE COUNTER.

A CUSTOMER SAYS HE SAW THAT LADY PUT A DIAMOND BRACELET INTO HER HANDBAG!
HMM~WE'VE BEEN WARNED ABOUT SHOP-LIFTERS~

WAIT UNTIL SHE REACHES THE SIDEWALK—THEN WE'LL NAB HER.
WILSON McCOY 9-10

THE CLERK AND DETECTIVE ARE FOLLOWING HER. BE QUICK!

WILSON McCOY 9-11
EXCUSE ME, LADY. MAY I SEE YOUR HANDBAG?
I BEG YOUR PARDON...

I'M THE STORE DETECTIVE. YOU WERE SEEN TAKING A BRACELET.
HOW DARE YOU?!
YOUR BAG, PLEASE?

HMM.
BUT~I DIDN'T DO IT~THIS IS OUTRAGEOUS~~!

COME INTO THE MANAGER'S OFFICE, PLEASE.

BUT I'M INNOCENT!
YOU CAN CALL YOUR LAWYER.
AMAZING! HER HUSBAND IS A PROMINENT DOCTOR!

HERE YOU ARE, BABY, BACK WHERE YOU BELONG~~ HEY!
WILSON McCOY 9-12

BUT THE MATRON SEARCHED HER. THERE WAS ONLY ONE.
I TELL YOU~~ THERE ARE FIVE DIAMOND BRACELETS MISSING!

WE DID IT AGAIN, MARGOT! WHAT A HAUL!
I WONDER WHO THAT POOR WOMAN IS~~

MARGOT, DON'T WORRY YOUR PRETTY HEAD ABOUT THOSE 'POOR WOMEN' OR OUR RACKET'S OVER!
I KNOW~ BUT IT'S CRUEL~

THAT'S WHY WE'RE NEVER CAUGHT.. I PLANT SOMETHING ON A STOOGE. WHILE EVERYONE'S WATCHING **HER**, WE OPERATE!

WE CHANGE OUR APPEARANCE SLIGHTLY EACH TIME~THEN NO ONE'LL REMEMBER US~
I WONDER WHO THE POOR 'STOOGE' WILL BE TODAY.
JEWELRY

TIME I HAD THIS WATCH FIXED.
WILSON McCOY 9-13
SHE'LL DO.

I WANT THIS WATCH REPAIRED.
ONE MOMENT PLEASE, WHILE I GET AN ORDER BLANK.

OOOPS~
OH~ EXCUSE ME~HOW CLUMSY~I LOST MY BALANCE~

IT'LL BE READY IN THREE WEEKS, MISS PALMER
THANK YOU.
THAT MAN MUST'VE BEEN DRUNK

IT'S NONE OF MY BUSINESS, BUT I SAW THAT GIRL SLIP A WATCH INTO HER PURSE.
WILSON McCOY 9-14
!?

A CUSTOMER SAW HER STEAL A WATCH~IT'S IN HER PURSE!
THEY NEVER STOP TRYING.

NO ONE'S WATCHING US. QUICK~JUST TAKE THE EXPENSIVE ONES.
WILSON McCOY 9-15

EXCUSE ME, MISS. MAY WE SEE YOUR PURSE?
?

BUT~I NEVER SAW THAT WATCH BEFORE!
DID IT WALK INTO YOUR PURSE?

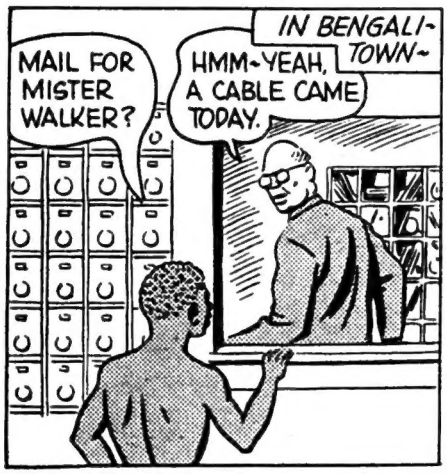
DIANA~ARRESTED FOR SHOPLIFTING? IMPOSSIBLE!
THEY JUST CALLED FROM THE STATION. WAIT HERE.
MISS PALMER, YOU WERE CAUGHT WITH THIS WATCH IN YOUR PURSE! WHO ARE THE REST OF YOUR GANG?
MY GANG?
WILSON McCOY 9-17
A DOZEN EXPENSIVE WATCHES WERE STOLEN WHILE YOU WERE IN THAT SHOP.
I DIDN'T STEAL ANYTHING! I WENT IN THERE~
~TO HAVE MY OWN WRIST WATCH FIXED! THAT'S ALL!
YOU'LL HAVE A HARD TIME CONVINCING THE JUDGE.
KNOW WHO THAT SHOPLIFTER IS? THE NIECE OF COLONEL DAVE PALMER!
THE EX-POLICE COMMISSIONER! WOW!
CALM DOWN, DAVE. WHAT CAN I DO? THEY CAUGHT HER WITH IT!
MY NIECE IS NO THIEF! INCOMPETENT~~ BUNGLING~I'LL BLAST THIS~~
POLICE CHIEF
WILSON McCOY 9-18
DAVE, WE'VE HAD A RASH OF THIS SHOPLIFTING. ORDERS ARE TO CRACK DOWN!
NOT ON DIANA! SHE DIDN'T DO IT!
DIANA, WHAT ON EARTH HAPPENED?
OH, UNCLE DAVE, IF I ONLY KNEW! THIS IS AWFUL!
THINK, DIANA! EVERY MOMENT YOU WERE IN THAT STORE~
I GAVE MY WRIST WATCH TO THE CLERK~ THEN~ OH~A MAN BUMPED INTO ME~
THAT'S IT, UNCLE DAVE! WHEN HE BUMPED INTO ME HE COULD HAVE DROPPED THAT WATCH IN MY PURSE!
!
A MAN BUMPED INTO HER AND PLANTED THE WATCH? DAVE, I'VE HEARD THAT STORY A DOZEN TIMES.
DIANA DOESN'T LIE!
WILSON McCOY 9-19
WHY WOULD ANY MAN WANT TO DO THAT?
SO THAT HE COULD~COULD~ (GULP) ~I DON'T KNOW~

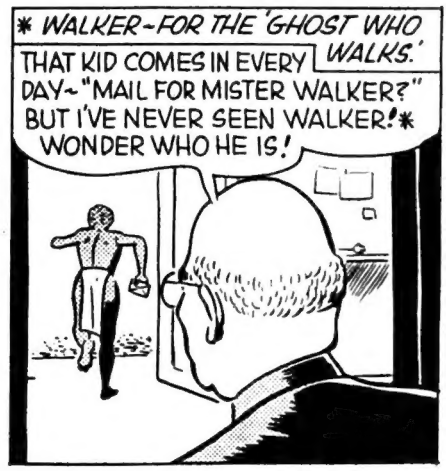
DAVE, BECAUSE OF YOUR SERVICE TO THE DEPARTMENT, WE'LL KEEP DIANA'S NAME OUT OF THIS UNTIL THE TRIAL. BUT AFTER THAT~

DIANA DOESN'T HAVE TO STEAL A WATCH.
YOU'D BE AMAZED AT THE PEOPLE WHO SHOPLIFT~

DIANA ~ THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO.
UNCLE DAVE ~ DO YOU THINK I DID IT?

OF COURSE NOT, BUT~~
PLEASE SEND THIS CABLE FOR ME.
WILSON McCOY 9-20

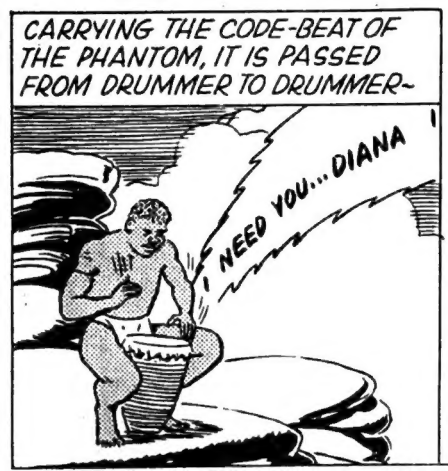

MAIL FOR MISTER WALKER?
IN BENGALI-TOWN~
HMM~YEAH, A CABLE CAME TODAY.

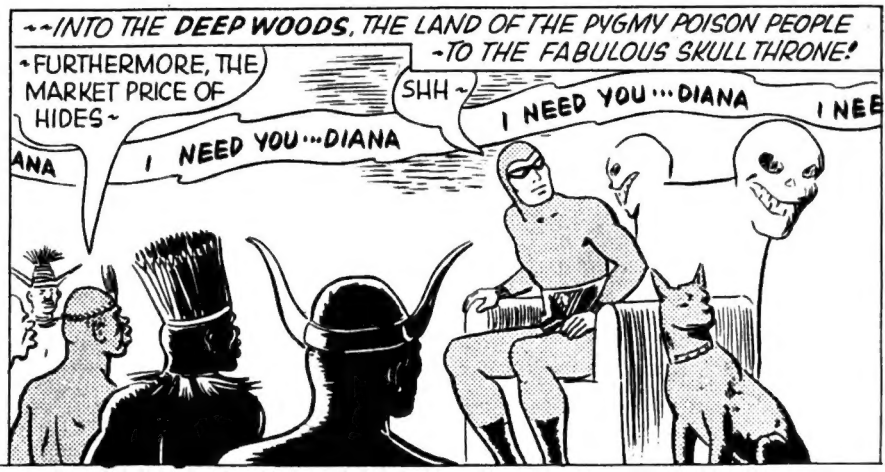

* WALKER ~ FOR THE 'GHOST WHO WALKS.'
THAT KID COMES IN EVERY DAY~ "MAIL FOR MISTER WALKER?" BUT I'VE NEVER SEEN WALKER!*
WONDER WHO HE IS!

IN THE BUSH THE BOY BEATS A TOM-TOM~
WILSON McCOY 9-21
I NEED YOU...DIANA

~AND THE MESSAGE STARTS ITS LONG TRIP~
~ I NEED YOU ~ DIANA ~~

WILSON McCOY 9-22
A TOM-TOM MESSAGE THROBS THRU THE JUNGLE~
I NEED YOU...DIANA
I NEED YOU...DIANA


CARRYING THE CODE-BEAT OF THE PHANTOM, IT IS PASSED FROM DRUMMER TO DRUMMER~
I NEED YOU...DIANA


~~INTO THE DEEP WOODS, THE LAND OF THE PYGMY POISON PEOPLE ~TO THE FABULOUS SKULL THRONE!
*FURTHERMORE, THE MARKET PRICE OF HIDES~
I NEED YOU...DIANA
SHH~
I NEED YOU...DIANA

A TOM-TOM MESSAGE REACHES THE DEEP WOODS.
I NEED YOU... DIANA
I NEED YOU... DIANA
I NEED YOU

BUT - THE CONFERENCE OF CHIEFS?
ADJOURNED UNTIL I RETURN!

WILSON McCOY 9-24

NO MAN WOULD BE IN SUCH A HURRY FOR ANY REASON - EXCEPT A GIRL.
EVEN THE GHOST WHO WALKS!

HE RACES THRU THE JUNGLE -
WHAT COULD HAVE HAPPENED?
I NEED YOU... DIANA
I NEED YOU... DIANA... I N

- TO A HIDDEN CORRAL NEAR TOWN.
WHEN DID YOU GET THE MESSAGE?
YESTERDAY, O GHOST WHO WALKS.

A PLANE LEAVES WITHIN AN HOUR.
GOOD! LET'S HOPE I'M NOT TOO LATE - TAKE GOOD CARE OF HERO -

DIANA WOULDN'T HAVE CABLED LIKE THAT UNLESS SHE'S IN SERIOUS TROUBLE. WHAT?
WILSON McCOY 9-25

HOW DID I GET INTO THIS? SHOPLIFTING! COULD MY MIND HAVE GONE BLANK FOR A SECOND?

DID I REALLY SLIP THAT WATCH INTO MY PURSE, AND NOT REMEMBER? NO, THAT'S SILLY! BUT - HOW DID IT GET INTO MY PURSE?

WHEN I THINK OF ALL THOSE INNOCENT WOMEN GOING TO JAIL BECAUSE OF YOU, FINGERS -
BECAUSE OF US, MARGOT, DEAR PARTNER.

WE DID WELL LAST WEEK, BUT WE'D BETTER RETIRE UNTIL THIS COOLS DOWN.
WILSON McCOY 9-26

I'VE TRIED EVERYTHING. I CAN'T EVEN GET DIANA OUT ON BAIL!
AFTER ALL YOUR YEARS AS POLICE COMMISSIONER! DAVE!

THAT'S JUST IT. THEY DON'T WANT TO SHOW FAVORITISM TO MY NIECE
DIANA'S NO THIEF!

YOU AND I KNOW THAT, LILY. BUT HOW CAN WE PROVE IT? THEY FOUND THE WATCH IN HER PURSE!
WILSON McCOY 9-27

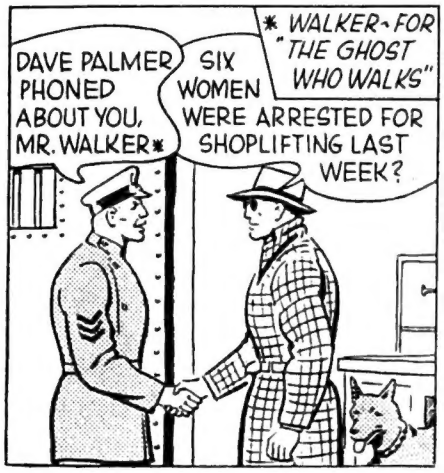
SHE'LL HAVE TO GO ON TRIAL.
THE REST OF HER LIFE RUINED! WHAT CAN WE DO?

YOU'VE COME!
I NEVER THOUGHT I'D BE SO GLAD TO SEE YOU!
WHAT HAPPENED TO DIANA?

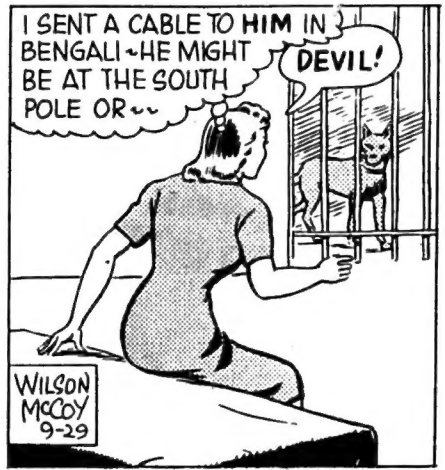
ARRESTED - FOR SHOPLIFTING! SHE'S IN CITY JAIL.
THEY FOUND A WATCH IN HER PURSE. NATURALLY, SHE DIDN'T-

CITY JAIL?
YES - WE CAN'T GET HER OUT AND SHE--
WILSON McCOY 9-28

HE DIDN'T WAIT TO HEAR IT ALL.
I GUESS HE HEARD ENOUGH. HE MOVES FAST!

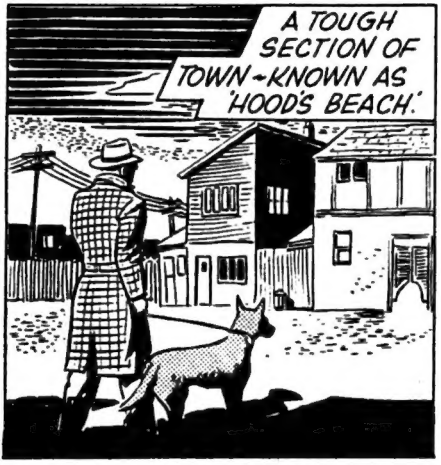

DAVE PALMER PHONED ABOUT YOU, MR. WALKER*
SIX WOMEN WERE ARRESTED FOR SHOPLIFTING LAST WEEK?
* WALKER - FOR "THE GHOST WHO WALKS"

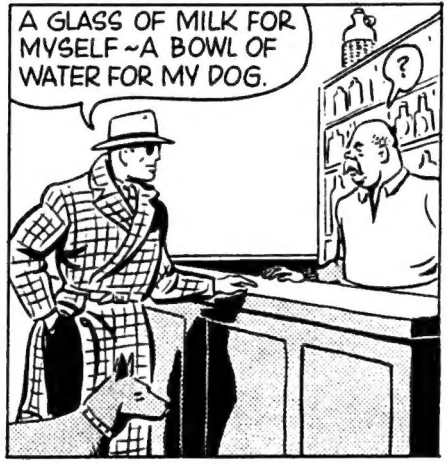
YES, ALL RESPECTABLE WOMEN. NO RECORDS - CAUGHT RED-HANDED. AMAZING!
MAY I SPEAK TO THEM?


I SENT A CABLE TO HIM IN BENGALI - HE MIGHT BE AT THE SOUTH POLE OR--
DEVIL!
WILSON McCOY 9-29

YOU'RE HERE!
NATURALLY, DIANA. FIRST A KISS. THEN TELL ME HOW YOU GOT HERE!

WILSON McCOY 10-1
I WAS IN THE JEWELRY STORE~ A MAN BUMPED INTO ME~I WENT OUTSIDE~ THEY FOUND A WATCH IN MY PURSE~
WHAT DID HE LOOK LIKE, DIANA?
I BARELY NOTICED. BLOND MUSTACHE~ TALL ~LONG FINGERS.~
~I DIDN'T STEAL THAT BRACELET~ HONESTLY!
IN THE NEXT CELL~
HOW DID IT GET INTO YOUR PURSE, MA'M?
A MAN BUMPED INTO ME~I THINK HE DID IT~A TALL MAN WITH A BIG BLACK MUSTACHE!
MAN WITH A BLACK MUSTACHE~
BALD~
~BLOND MUSTACHE
RED-HAIRED~
WILSON McCOY 10-2
EACH ONE CLAIMS A MAN BUMPED INTO HER AND DROPPED SOMETHING IN HER PURSE. AN OLD SHOPLIFTER'S ALIBI.
IF SOME CROOK WAS DOING WHAT THEY CLAIM, THE DESCRIPTIONS WOULD MATCH. BUT THEY'RE ALL DIFFERENT! AND WHY WOULD A CROOK~~
~DROP EXPENSIVE JEWELRY IN THEIR PURSES? MAKES NO SENSE!
NONE, EXCEPT ONE OF THEM IS DIANA PALMER. I KNOW SHE'S TELLING THE TRUTH!
DIANA, ARE YOU CERTAIN THE MAN WHO BUMPED INTO YOU WAS A BLOND?
HE HAD A BLOND MUSTACHE. WHY?
SIX OTHER WOMEN ARE IN JAIL FOR SHOPLIFTING~~ THE SAME STORY~
~A MAN BUMPED INTO THEM~THEY WENT OUTSIDE~
WILSON McCOY 10-3
~THEN THE STOLEN ARTICLES WERE FOUND IN THEIR PURSES. BUT IN EACH CASE THE MAN WAS DIFFERENT~
RED-HAIRED~ BLACK MUSTACHE~ BALD~
MINE HAD A BLOND MUSTACHE ~LONG FINGERS~
HE DOESN'T BELIEVE ME.
STOP WORRYING~ I'LL THINK OF SOMETHING~

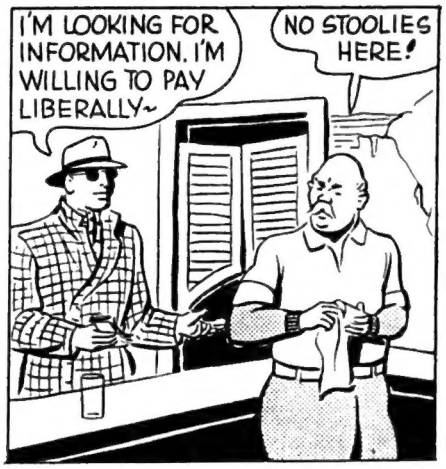

A TOUGH SECTION OF TOWN~KNOWN AS 'HOOD'S BEACH.'

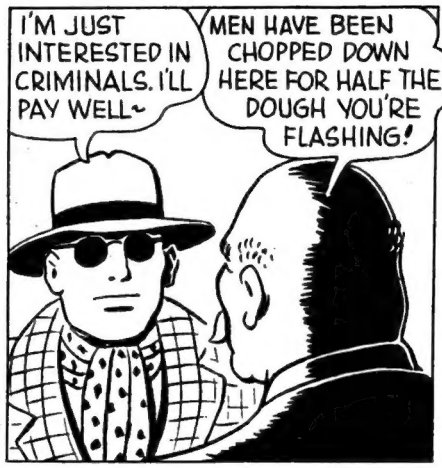

A GLASS OF MILK FOR MYSELF~A BOWL OF WATER FOR MY DOG.
?

WE GET ALL KINDS IN HERE
FOOL~HE SHOULDN'T FLASH A ROLL LIKE THAT~
TAKE IT OUT OF THIS~~

LOOK WHAT'S AT THE BAR~ A DOG LOVER
A MILK DRINKER
~WITH A ROLL!
WILSON McCOY 10-4

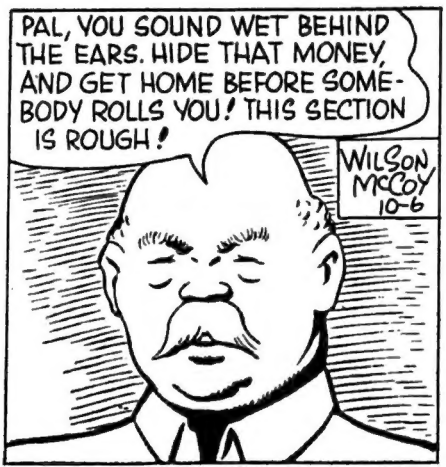
I'M TOLD A LOT OF REAL BURGLARS, HOLDUP MEN AND PICKPOCKETS HANG OUT HERE. RIGHT?
WHO TOL' YOU THAT?

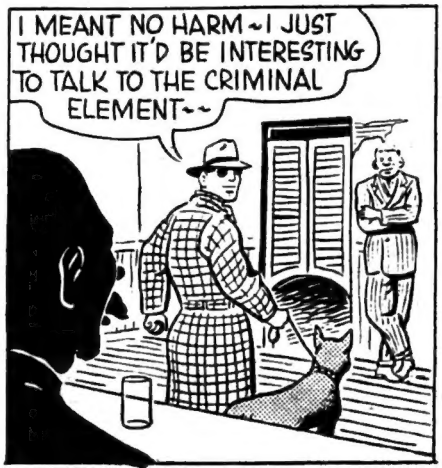

I'M LOOKING FOR INFORMATION. I'M WILLING TO PAY LIBERALLY~
NO STOOLIES HERE!


I'M JUST INTERESTED IN CRIMINALS. I'LL PAY WELL~
MEN HAVE BEEN CHOPPED DOWN HERE FOR HALF THE DOUGH YOU'RE FLASHING!

HE WANTS TO TALK TO A REAL BURGLAR~
LOOK AT THAT DOUGH!
HE'S OUR BOY!
WILSON McCOY 10-5

BEAT IT. NOBODY TALKS AROUND HERE.
BUT I'LL PAY WELL~I JUST WANT TO TALK TO A REAL BURGLAR.


PAL, YOU SOUND WET BEHIND THE EARS. HIDE THAT MONEY, AND GET HOME BEFORE SOMEBODY ROLLS YOU! THIS SECTION IS ROUGH!
WILSON McCOY 10-6


I MEANT NO HARM~I JUST THOUGHT IT'D BE INTERESTING TO TALK TO THE CRIMINAL ELEMENT~~

I HEARD YOU TALKIN'! MAYBE I CAN TELL YOU WHAT YOU WANT TO KNOW~IF YOU'LL STEP OUTSIDE.
FINE!

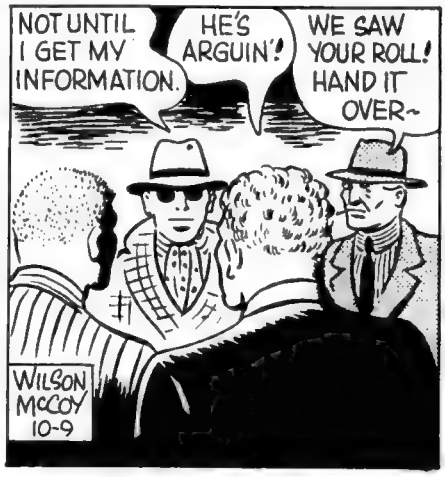
YOU WANNA HEAR ALL ABOUT CROOKS AND STUFF? GOT PLENTY OF DOUGH?
PLENTY.

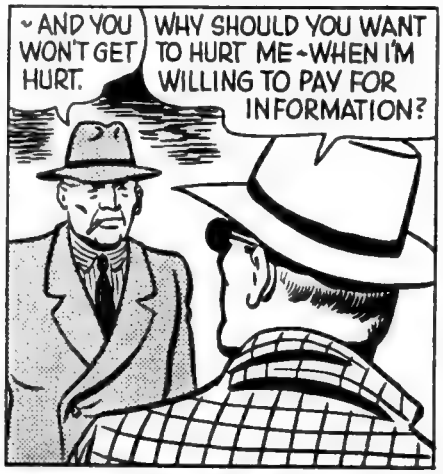
OKAY. FOLLOW ME.
WHAT A SOFT TOUCH!
WILSON McCOY 10-8

WE WON'T NEED GUNS WITH THIS GREENHORN. BLACKJACKS'LL DO.
YEAH. COME ON.

WHY DO THESE RUBES COME HERE, JUST ASKIN' FOR IT? GIVES MY PLACE A BAD NAME!

WHO ARE THOSE MEN?
PALS OF MINE. HAND OVER YOUR DOUGH.


NOT UNTIL I GET MY INFORMATION.
HE'S ARGUIN'!
WE SAW YOUR ROLL! HAND IT OVER~
WILSON McCOY 10-9


~AND YOU WON'T GET HURT.
WHY SHOULD YOU WANT TO HURT ME~WHEN I'M WILLING TO PAY FOR INFORMATION?

WHAT A RUBE! I'M GOING TO HATE TO SLUG HIM~ LIKE HITTIN' A BABY!

I SUPPOSE YOU GENTLEMEN KNOW ALL THE CROOKS IN THIS TOWN?
SURE, WE 'GENTLEMEN' KNOW 'EM ALL!

WILSON McCOY 10-10

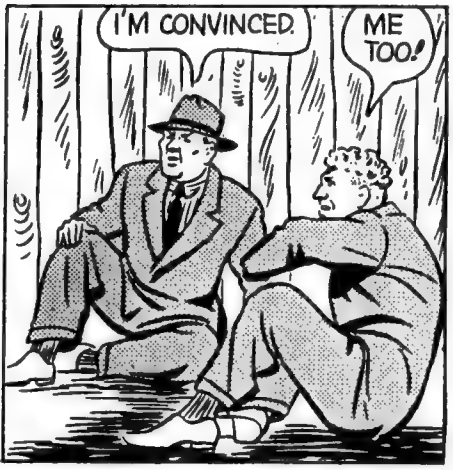
THE PHANTOM'S FIST DARTS FROM ONE TO ANOTHER~ LIKE A TRIPHAMMER!

WE'LL WAIT UNTIL THESE GENTLEMEN WAKE UP, DEVIL. THEN I'M SURE THEY'LL BE HAPPY TO TALK.

WHAT~ HIT US?
HE DID!
WHY~ THAT CREAM-PUFF!

WILSON McCOY 10-11

ARE YOU 'GENTLEMEN' READY TO TELL ME WHAT I WANT TO KNOW, OR DO YOU NEED FURTHER CONVINCING?


I'M CONVINCED.
ME TOO!

I'M LOOKING FOR A SHOPLIFTER WHO'S PROBABLY AN EX-PICK-POCKET. KNOW ANY-BODY LIKE THAT?
COULD BE A DOZEN GUYS ~ WHAT DOES HE LOOK LIKE?

I DON'T KNOW. HE NEVER LOOKS THE SAME TWICE. HE MUST USE DISGUISES.
DISGUISES? I DUNNO~

THINK! ONE THING HE CAN'T DISGUISE ARE HIS LONG HANDS AND LONG FINGERS~~
WILSON McCOY 10-12

'FINGERS!'
BUTTON UP!
'FINGERS?'

WHO IS 'FINGERS?'
QUIET!
UH~~ I DUNNO~

I'VE BEEN PATIENT! MUST I GET ROUGH?
GET ROUGH?
AFTER HE ALMOST BROKE OUR NECKS!
NO~

ONLY ONE OF HIM ~ THREE OF US~~
LET'S JUMP HIM WHILE HE'S~~

WILSON McCOY 10-13
BETTER~ STAY~PUT!
YEAH!

WHO IS 'FINGERS?'
EX-CON MAN, EX-PICK-POCKET, THEY SAY. SMARTEST CROOK IN TOWN. NEVER BEEN CAUGHT!
WILSON McCOY 10-15

WHERE DO I FIND HIM?
WHO KNOWS? WHAT IF YOU DO FIND HIM? YOU'LL NEVER GET ANY-THING ON HIM.

ONE MORE QUESTION. WHO'S THE BIGGEST FENCE IN TOWN?
THAT'S NO SECRET. PAPA DAN.

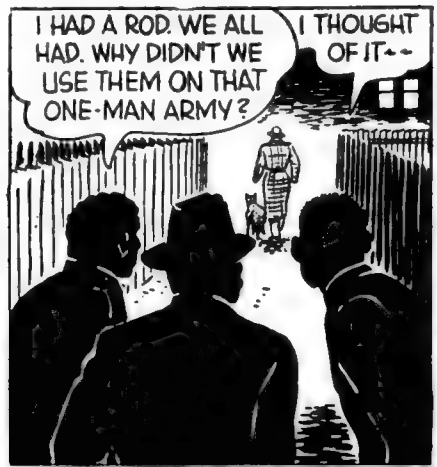
HEY, YOU'RE NO COP. MIND TELLIN' US WHO YOU ARE?
YES, I MIND. COME ON, DEVIL.

WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BE THE TOUGHEST GUYS ON HOOD'S BEACH. YOU TOSSED US AROUND LIKE BEAN-BAGS.
WHO ARE YOU?
I TOLD YOU- A STRANGER IN TOWN LOOKING FOR INFORMATION.
UH--YOU SAID YOU'D PAY US.
WILSON McCOY 10-16

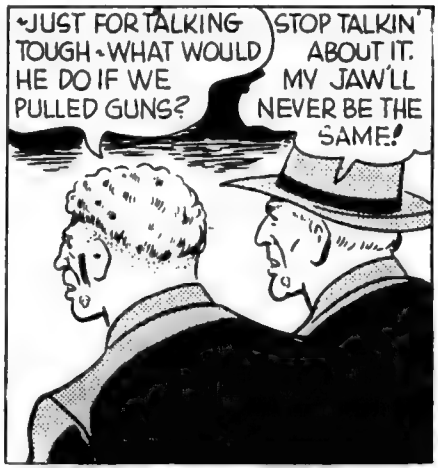
I INTENDED TO, BUT YOU ASSAULTED ME. YOU COULD BE LOCKED UP. I'M LETTING YOU GO. ISN'T THAT PAYMENT ENOUGH?

WE-
-ASSAULTED-
HIM?

I'VE GOT TO WORK FAST TO HELP DIANA -BUT HOW TO FIND AN EX-CON MAN NAMED FINGERS-NO RECORD -NO DESCRIPTION-
WILSON McCOY 10-17

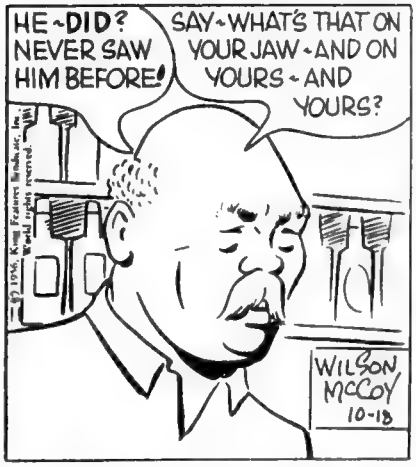

I HAD A ROD. WE ALL HAD. WHY DIDN'T WE USE THEM ON THAT ONE-MAN ARMY?
I THOUGHT OF IT--

-HE MOVES FAST- I WAS AFRAID TO REACH FOR IT.
ME TOO! I FIGURED-IF HE DID WHAT HE DID TO US--


-JUST FOR TALKING TOUGH-WHAT WOULD HE DO IF WE PULLED GUNS?
STOP TALKIN' ABOUT IT. MY JAW'LL NEVER BE THE SAME!

LISTEN, YOU BIRDS, NO MORE ROLLIN' MY CUSTOMERS! GIVES MY PLACE A BAD NAME!
LISTEN TO HIM!

THAT GUY FLASHED MONEY LIKE A RUBE ~TALKED LIKE A SOFTY~~
~~THEN WALLOPED ALL THREE OF US!
WHO WAS HE?


HE ~DID? NEVER SAW HIM BEFORE!
SAY ~ WHAT'S THAT ON YOUR JAW ~ AND ON YOURS ~ AND YOURS?
WILSON McCOY 10-18

THE SIGN OF THE SKULL ~ ~MARK OF THE PHANTOM!
LOOKS LIKE A SKULL MARK~~!
A ~DEATH'S HEAD~!

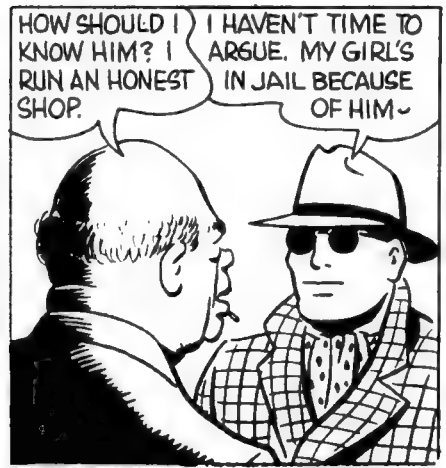
ANY WORD FROM HIM?
NONE, DIANA. I DON'T KNOW WHAT HE EXPECTS TO FIND. I'VE TRIED EVERYTHING~~

IF HE CAN'T HELP ME ~ WHO CAN! I'LL BE SENTENCED FOR SHOPLIFTING. ~~HOW UGLY! UNCLE DAVE ~ I DIDN'T DO IT~~!

NO TWO DESCRIPTIONS FIT THIS 'FINGERS.' MUST USE DISGUISES~ ALSO, HE MUST USE A 'FENCE' TO SELL HIS LOOT.
PAPA DAN'S PAWN SHOP
WILSON McCOY 10-19

YES, I AM PAPA DAN. WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?
I'M LOOKING FOR A MAN CALLED 'FINGERS'. KNOW HIM?

'FINGERS?' WHO IS THAT?
EX-CON MAN, EX-PICKPOCKET, NOW SHOPLIFTING JEWELRY.
WILSON McCOY 10-20


HOW SHOULD I KNOW HIM? I RUN AN HONEST SHOP.
I HAVEN'T TIME TO ARGUE. MY GIRL'S IN JAIL BECAUSE OF HIM~

YOU RECEIVE STOLEN GOODS HERE. THE POLICE 'LL CATCH UP WITH YOU SOON ENOUGH~~
BUT RIGHT NOW I WANT 'FINGERS'!

WHERE DO I FIND HIM?
UH ~ TAKE IT EASY. LET ME THINK~

YOU LOOKING FOR A MAN NAMED FINGERS? NOT SURE I EVER~
DEVIL~ GO!

WILSON McCOY 10-22

GET THIS MONSTER AWAY FROM ME!
WHERE DO I FIND MR. FINGERS? TAKE YOUR TIME, PAPA DAN.

I'M IN NO HURRY, BUT I DON'T KNOW ABOUT DEVIL!

I'LL ~TRY~TO HELP YOU! GET HIM AWAY!
HERE, DEVIL.

I'VE BEEN GETTING GOODS FROM A NEW CROWD LATELY. DIFFERENT FELLOWS COME IN~I DON'T KNOW THEIR NAMES~

DIFFERENT FELLOWS? COULD IT BE THE SAME MAN CHANGING DISGUISES?
HUH~~I NEVER THOUGHT ABOUT THAT~SOUNDS CRAZY~~

ANY OF THEM HAVE LONG HANDS AND FINGERS?
COME TO THINK OF IT~THEY ALL DO~
HERE COMES ONE NOW!
WILSON McCOY 10-23

BUSY, PAPA?
I CAN WAIT.
COME IN THE BACK ROOM.

WHO IS THAT MAN?
I DON'T KNOW. WHAT HAVE YOU GOT?
HE HAS LONG FINGERS.

SOME FINE WATCHES. HOW MUCH'LL YOU GIVE ME?
HMM~LET ME FIGURE~

Careful. I think he's looking for you.
!
WILSON McCOY 10-24

Careful. I think he's looking for you.

HE'S GONE!
WHAT MADE YOU THINK HE'S LOOKING FOR ME? YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW MY NAME!

HE'S LOOKING FOR SOMEBODY CALLED 'FINGERS.' IS THAT YOU?
UH ~ WHAT'S THAT WRITTEN ON THE COUNTER?

WILSON McCOY 10-25
I'LL SEE YOU SOON, FINGERS.

SO YOU ARE 'FINGERS'?
JUST GIVE ME THE DOUGH FOR THE WATCHES, PAPA.

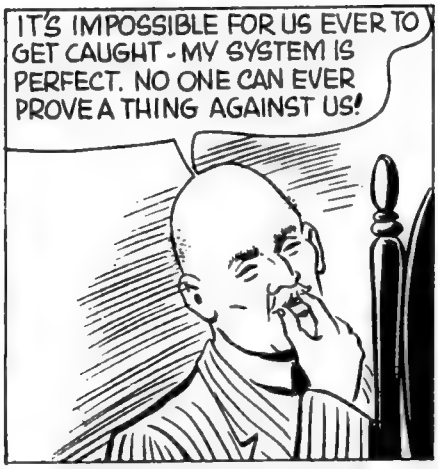
YOU'D BETTER GO OUT THE BACK WAY.
YEAH. IF THAT MAN COMES BACK, YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING!

LAST TIME I'LL GO TO PAPA DAN'S. WHO COULD BE LOOKING FOR ME?
WILSON McCOY 10-26

I'VE ALWAYS COVERED MY TRACKS. TOO CLEVER FOR THE POLICE ~ TOO CLEVER FOR ALL OF THEM ~ THEY'LL NEVER GET ME!

SOMEONE LOOKING FOR YOU, FINGERS? WE'D BETTER GET OUT OF TOWN!
ONE MORE JOB ~ THEN WE GO!

NO ~ NOW!
MARGOT, DON'T GET PANICKY! MY SYSTEM NEVER MISSES. NEVER LOOK THE SAME TWICE!


IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR US EVER TO GET CAUGHT - MY SYSTEM IS PERFECT. NO ONE CAN EVER PROVE A THING AGAINST US!

ONE MORE JOB ~ DIAMONDS THIS TIME! THEN WE GET LOST!
WILSON McCOY 10-27

MY TRIAL IS TOMORROW! UNCLE DAVE, IS THERE ANY WORD FROM HIM YET?
NOTHING, DIANA.

IF THE MAN WHO FRAMED YOU FOR SHOP-LIFTING EXISTS, THE PHANTOM'LL FIND HIM!
IF HE EXISTS! I'M NOT EVEN SURE.

FINGERS, LET'S GET OUT OF TOWN WHILE WE CAN!
ONE MORE JOB, MARGOT. DIAMONDS! I'VE HAD MY EYE ON A STORE~
WILSON McCOY 10-29

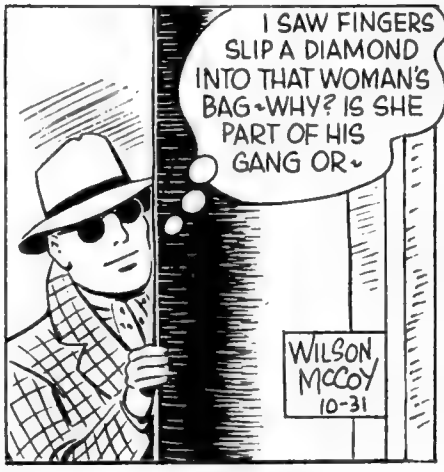
IS FINGERS THE MAN? HOW DOES HE OPERATE? NOTHING'S CERTAIN~ HE MAY DO NOTHING~NOT MUCH TIME TO HELP DIANA~

LET ME SEE THE OTHER TRAY.
YES, M'AM.
THERE'S OUR STOOGE FOR TODAY

OH~I'M SO SORRY~ LOST MY BALANCE~
OH~~

ALLOW ME~~
WILSON McCOY 10-30

YES~HE SLIPPED SOMETHING INTO HER PURSE~~ BUT WHY?


I SAW FINGERS SLIP A DIAMOND INTO THAT WOMAN'S BAG~WHY? IS SHE PART OF HIS GANG OR~
WILSON McCOY 10-31

EXCUSE ME ~NONE OF MY BUSINESS~BUT I SAW THAT WOMAN SLIP A DIAMOND INTO HER PURSE.

WAIT UNTIL SHE REACHES THE SIDEWALK~THEN GRAB HER!

QUICK, MARGO! NOW!

HOW DARE YOU ACCUSE ME OF STEALING?
GANGWAY!
JEWELRY

WILSON McCOY 11-1
JUST A MINUTE, YOU TWO!

THAT WOMAN DIDN'T STEAL THE DIAMOND. I SAW HIM SLIP IT INTO HER BAG~THEN STEAL A DOZEN OTHERS WHEN YOU CHASED HER!
FINGERS!

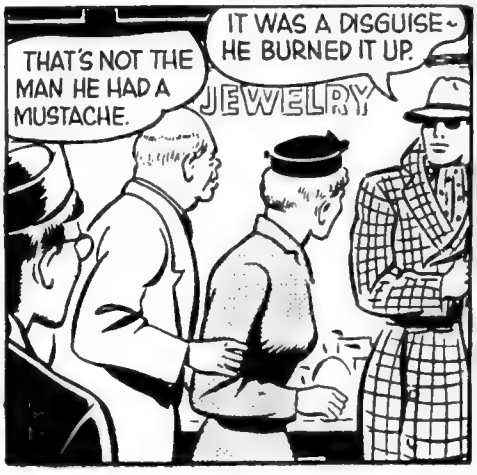
JEWELRY
SHHH~
A DOZEN! SHE'S PART OF THE GANG!

I CAN PROVE THIS MAN AND WOMAN ARE THE THIEVES. THAT LADY IS INNOCENT~~HEY~~
JEWELRY

HOLD HER~WHILE I GET HIM!

I'VE TIME~TO GET THIS WIG AND MUSTACHE OFF~ AND BURN THEM~

NOW~TRY TO PROVE ANYTHING~OOF!
WILSON McCOY 11-2

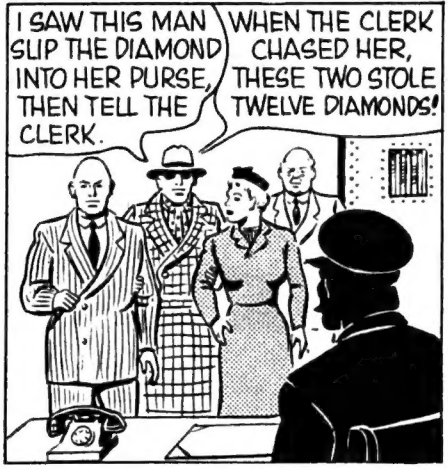

THAT'S NOT THE MAN HE HAD A MUSTACHE.
IT WAS A DISGUISE~ HE BURNED IT UP.
JEWELRY

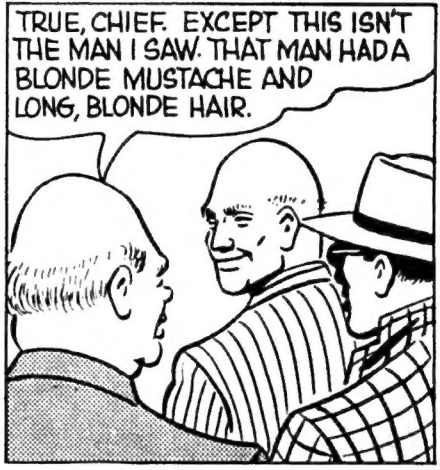
WHAT DOES THIS MEAN? I'VE NEVER SEEN ANY OF YOU BEFORE.
WILSON McCOY 11-3

A DISGUISE? BURNED? HMM~~ I'D BETTER HOLD YOU **ALL** UNTIL THE POLICE ARRIVE. NOW I DON'T KNOW **WHO** DID IT!

TRY TO PROVE SOMETHING NOW, WISE GUY!
HMM~WE'VE GOT THE GIRL WITH THE DIAMONDS~ BUT **HE'S** THE ONE WE WANT!

ANOTHER SOCIETY SHOPLIFTER, CHIEF. TWO OTHERS OUTSIDE.
BUT I DIDN'T~
LOCK HER UP.
WILSON McCOY 11-5


I SAW THIS MAN SLIP THE DIAMOND INTO HER PURSE, THEN TELL THE CLERK.
WHEN THE CLERK CHASED HER, THESE TWO STOLE TWELVE DIAMONDS!


TRUE, CHIEF. EXCEPT THIS ISN'T THE MAN I SAW. THAT MAN HAD A BLONDE MUSTACHE AND LONG, BLONDE HAIR.

YOU'VE GOT THE DIAMONDS IN YOUR SHOPPING BAG!
I DIDN'T KNOW THEY WERE THERE. A BLONDE MAN HANDED THE BAG TO ME AND RAN~

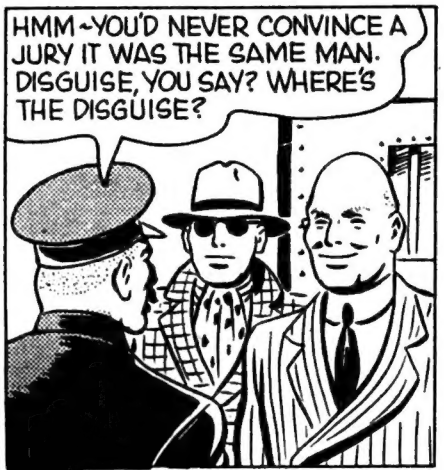
I CAN PROVE THIS IS THE MAN. I HAVE PHOTOS OF THE THEFT.
?
TAKE THAT TO THE LAB. DEVELOP THEM AT ONCE!

YOU'VE SIX OTHER WOMEN IN THIS JAIL WHO WERE FRAMED IN THE SAME WAY BY THIS MAN! DIANA PALMER'S ONE OF THEM!

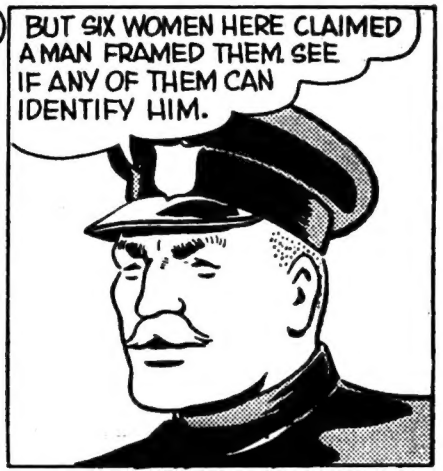
IF THIS IS TRUE, WE'LL TRIM YOUR SAILS! FRAMING INNOCENT WOMEN!
IT'S A LIE! I'M INNOCENT.

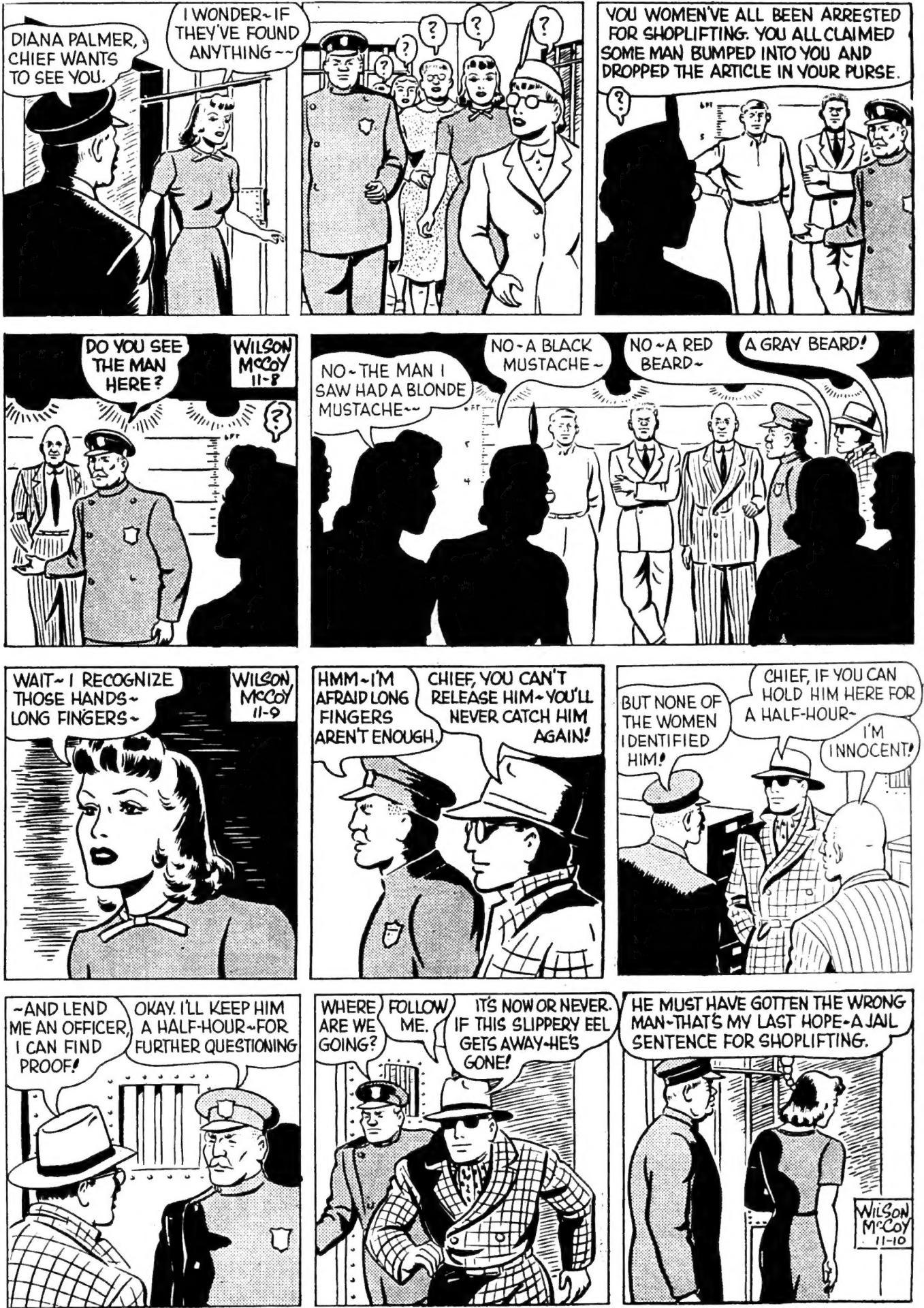
HERE ARE THE PHOTOS, CHIEF. BUT THEY DON'T LOOK LIKE THIS GUY AT ALL.
WILSON McCOY 11-6
SEE?

WILSON McCOY 11-7

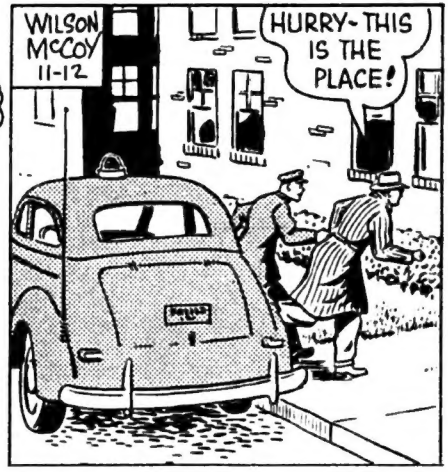

HMM~YOU'D NEVER CONVINCE A JURY IT WAS THE SAME MAN. DISGUISE, YOU SAY? WHERE'S THE DISGUISE?

HE BURNED IT UP IN A FLASH WHILE HE WAS RUNNING AWAY.
~I CAN HEAR WHAT HIS LAWYER'D DO WITH THAT STORY~


BUT SIX WOMEN HERE CLAIMED A MAN FRAMED THEM. SEE IF ANY OF THEM CAN IDENTIFY HIM.


DIANA PALMER, CHIEF WANTS TO SEE YOU.
I WONDER~IF THEY'VE FOUND ANYTHING~~
YOU WOMEN'VE ALL BEEN ARRESTED FOR SHOPLIFTING. YOU ALL CLAIMED SOME MAN BUMPED INTO YOU AND DROPPED THE ARTICLE IN YOUR PURSE.
DO YOU SEE THE MAN HERE?
WILSON McCOY 11-8
NO~THE MAN I SAW HAD A BLONDE MUSTACHE~~
NO~A BLACK MUSTACHE~
NO~A RED BEARD~
A GRAY BEARD!
WAIT~I RECOGNIZE THOSE HANDS~ LONG FINGERS~
WILSON McCOY 11-9
HMM~I'M AFRAID LONG FINGERS AREN'T ENOUGH.
CHIEF, YOU CAN'T RELEASE HIM~YOU'LL NEVER CATCH HIM AGAIN!
BUT NONE OF THE WOMEN IDENTIFIED HIM!
CHIEF, IF YOU CAN HOLD HIM HERE FOR A HALF-HOUR~
I'M INNOCENT!
~AND LEND ME AN OFFICER, I CAN FIND PROOF!
OKAY. I'LL KEEP HIM A HALF-HOUR~FOR FURTHER QUESTIONING
WHERE ARE WE GOING?
FOLLOW ME.
IT'S NOW OR NEVER. IF THIS SLIPPERY EEL GETS AWAY~HE'S GONE!
HE MUST HAVE GOTTEN THE WRONG MAN~THAT'S MY LAST HOPE~A JAIL SENTENCE FOR SHOPLIFTING.
WILSON McCOY 11-10

RELEASE ME, OR I'LL SUE FOR FALSE ARREST.
ER~JUST A FEW MINUTES.
I GAVE HIM A HALF-HOUR. FIFTEEN MINUTES GONE.

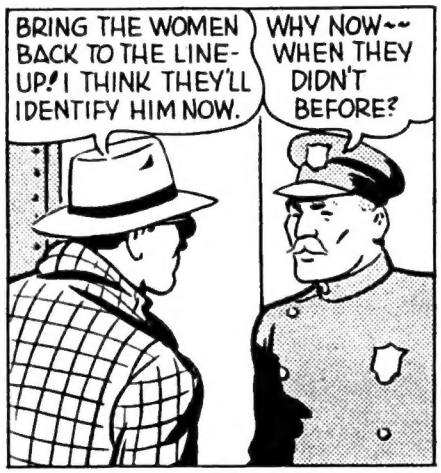

WILSON McCOY 11-12
HURRY~THIS IS THE PLACE!

FINGERS' APARTMENT. BREAK IN THE DOOR. THIS IS AN EMERGENCY.
OKAY~BUT YOU'RE RESPONSIBLE

MY LAST CHANCE. IF THIS DOESN'T WORK, DIANA FACES A JAIL SENTENCE!
WHAT'S HE UP TO?

HALF-HOUR'S UP~YOU CAN GO.
LUCKY THING FOR YOU! BULLDOZING HONEST CITIZENS~

WHOA, 'HONEST CITIZEN'. WE'RE NOT THRU WITH YOU YET, FINGERS!
WHO IS THIS MAN?


BRING THE WOMEN BACK TO THE LINE-UP! I THINK THEY'LL IDENTIFY HIM NOW.
WHY NOW~~ WHEN THEY DIDN'T BEFORE?

BECAUSE I'VE BROUGHT HIS DISGUISES. PUT ONE ON, FINGERS!
WILSON McCOY 11-13

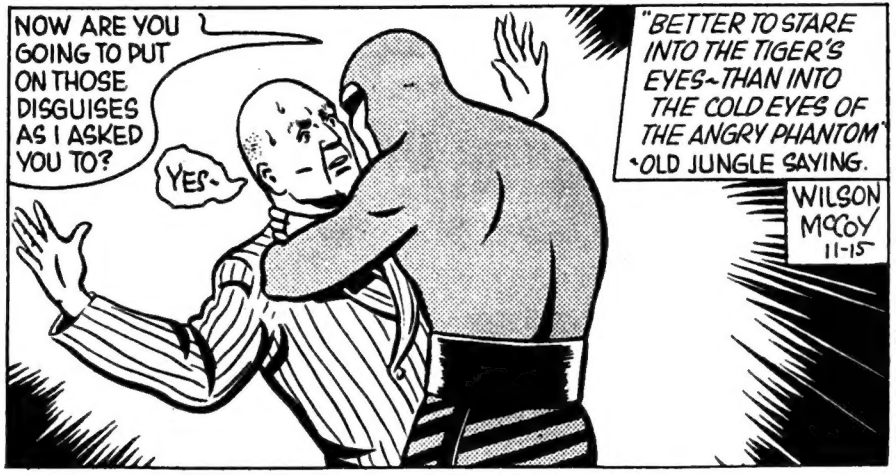
YOU CAN'T PROVE THAT THESE DISGUISES ARE MINE OR THAT I EVER USED THEM!
THEY CAME FROM YOUR ROOM.

CAN'T YOU FORCE HIM TO PUT ONE ON?
I'M AFRAID NOT~BLAST IT!

MY~HE LEFT FAST! WHO IS HE?
I DON'T KNOW. PUT DOWN YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS~THEN YOU'RE FREE~

THAT WAS CLOSE! BUT I OUTFOXED THEM! I WONDER WHO THAT GUY WAS...
WILSON McCOY 11-14

!?
I WANT YOU, FINGERS!


NOW ARE YOU GOING TO PUT ON THOSE DISGUISES AS I ASKED YOU TO?
YES-
"BETTER TO STARE INTO THE TIGER'S EYES-THAN INTO THE COLD EYES OF THE ANGRY PHANTOM" -OLD JUNGLE SAYING.
WILSON McCOY 11-15

THAT VOICE! YOU'RE THE SAME FELLOW WHO--
YOU FRAMED MY GIRL AND SIX OTHER INNOCENT WOMEN FOR SHOPLIFTING-

FIRST-PUT ON THE BLOND WIG AND MUSTACHE

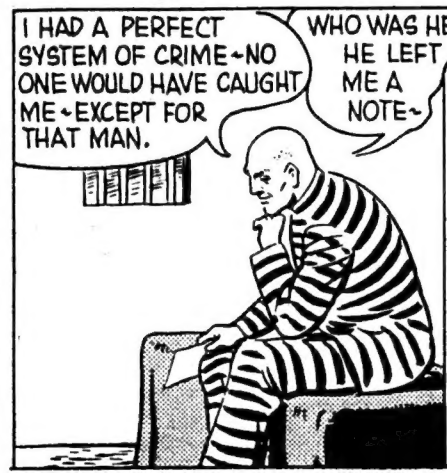
NOW-HAS ANYBODY EVER SEEN THIS MAN BEFORE?
YES! HE'S THE ONE WHO BUMPED INTO ME.

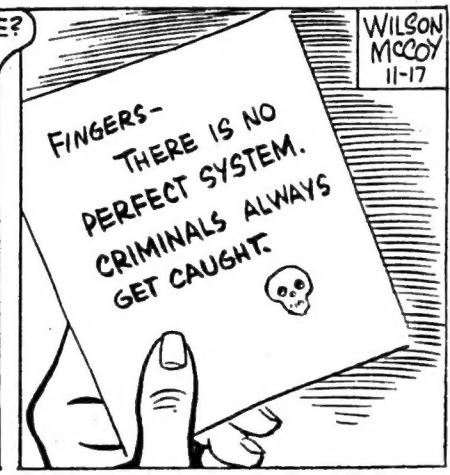
THAT'S HIM!
THAT'S HIM!
WILSON McCOY 11-16

DIANA PALMER?
YES, THAT'S THE MAN WHO BUMPED INTO ME AND DROPPED THE WATCH IN MY PURSE!

DARLING, I NEVER DOUBTED FOR ONE MINUTE THAT YOU'D CATCH HIM.
REALLY-THAT'S MORE THAN I CAN SAY, DIANA.

THAT WAS THE CLEVEREST DETECTIVE WORK I'VE EVER SEEN! WHO IS THAT MAN, DAVE?
IF I TOLD YOU, YOU'D NEVER BELIEVE ME.


I HAD A PERFECT SYSTEM OF CRIME-NO ONE WOULD HAVE CAUGHT ME-EXCEPT FOR THAT MAN.
WHO WAS HE? HE LEFT ME A NOTE-


WILSON McCOY 11-17
FINGERS- THERE IS NO PERFECT SYSTEM. CRIMINALS ALWAYS GET CAUGHT.